G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

1907. 79 94 (Municipal)

Later references.

File No. 447 – 0

Serial Nos 1654

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1654.

Part B for June 1910

SUBJECT.

Prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid temples without removing their shoes.

No. From the Hon'ble the Resident.

D. O. No. 4409, 22-10

States that the Hon'ble Sir Basil Scott, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court who had gone on a visit to the large Halebid temple is not under the building on being shown a document bearing the signature of the Amildar of Belur dated 1908 prohibiting visitors from entering without removing their shoes, and enquires whether the Amildar's order was issued under authority &c—

(1) 5,000—22-10-10

G.R.S. 11] 1909-10.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Miscl.)

NOTES.

File No: 447-09.

FILE HEADING.

Prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid temples without removing their shoes.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. S.M. Fraser, I.C.S., the Hon'ble the Resident.

No. D.O. No. C. 40 Dated 22. 1. 10. Received 2. 10.

Diary No. 1450	Enclos.	Spare Copies	Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

States that the Hon'ble Sir Basil Scott, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, who had gone on a visit to the large Halebid temple, did not enter the building on being shown a document bearing the signature of the H= of Belur dated 1908, prohibiting visitors from entering without removing their shoes, and enquiring whether the Amildar's ~~order~~ order was issued under authority

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Dewan's order:-

Copy of the Hon'ble Mr. Fraser's D.O letter no C 40 dated 22nd. instant, on the subject of the prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid temples without removing their shoes is forwarded with compliments to the 2nd Sr. for

NOTES—First sheet

GPB—30,000—3-4 07

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

NWz File No. 447 of 1909

Serial No.

favn of enquiry and a note of the result with a draft of the reply that may be sent to Mr Fraser. It is not clear why there should be an order of the kind so recent as 1908.

2nd Councillor's order:-

To the D.C. for an early report.

2. Is there no worship in the temple? What has been the usual practice? Why was an order newly issued in 1908? All records to be sent up

GCS

Subd with a draft Dsve 2/2/10

To The Deputy Commr, Hassan Dt.

No. 1941 dated 3rd Feb. 1910.

3. Forwards copy of the Hon'ble the Resident's D.O. and requests to be furnished with information on the points referred to above.

From The Same.

D.O. dated 9th Feb. 1910.

4. States that he visited Halebid (6th Feb. 1910) and made private enquiries and reports that it is presumably the Hoysaleswara temple that Sir Basil Scott visited and that there is put up a notice of the nature complained of, bearing the signature of the Amildar Mr. B. Krishna Singh, and that that notice was issued under the authority of the Assistant Commr. Mr. M. A. Narayaniengar, on a petition from the Halebid residents complaining

X

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—55,000—27-4-09

G.R.S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Mwz File No. 447 of 1909

Serial No.

of the entrance of visitors into the temple with their shoes.

5. From the enclosures to this D.O it is observed that puja is performed in the temple and the Asst Commr Mr M. A. Narayanier(ju has observed in his order to the Amildar that it has been the practice not to allow people entering this with their shoes on, but that there is no objection to walk in the Temple Prakara with shoes. Statements have also been taken from the Archak and the watcher of the temple, and that taken from the latter goes to show that Sir Basil Scott was not prohibited from entering into the inner temple. The extract from the Visitors Book maintained in the temple, which is also submitted by the Dy Commr does not make mention of the event complained of.

6. In the concluding portion of the D.O., the Dy Commr states that he is given to understand that at some temples in Northern India a supply of Japanese grass-made shoes with jute soles ~~and &c~~ is kept for the use of those entering temples who are unaccustomed to walk without shoes, and suggests that if the objection is only against the material of ordinary shoes (viz leather), these grass-made shoes may be allowed to be instead.

Amildar's Report
Archaka's statement
W + V

W(1)

V

U

T

para 7 of Paper under Disposal.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

~~Submitted for orders.~~

GPB—50,000—27.4.09

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Mus File No. 447 of 1909

Serial No.	
5	7. In the Submission Note to His Highness, the Dewan has stated that he would enquire into the matter and submit a note of the result with draft of the reply that may be sent to the Honble the Resident. Subd for orders. UL 19.3.10.

P.T.O

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—30,000—27-4-09

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

mus File No. 447 of 1909

5

Serial No.

8 In the petition of the villagers to the Deputy Commissioner dated 26th nov 1907 it is said that when Mr. B.C. Krishna Iyengar was Deputy Commissioner there was an order to the effect that visitors should not go into the Mo saleswara temple - with shoes on. With a view to find out if this had been sanctioned by Government, I got the registers of 1896-7 and 1897-8 searched. No order - appears to have been issued by Government.

Sly. X

9 Without ascertaining whether or not there was any such order the Sub Division Officer in - December 1907 ordered that a notice prohibiting visitors from going into this temple with shoes on should be put up. The Amildar has carried out this order.

W(1)

10 I do not understand how European and Mussalman ~~Hedan~~ visitors can be allowed to go into the temple even without shoes. But I can not say anything definite until I see the temple or a plan thereof.

11 I may here say that when the Vimana of the Belur temple was proposed to be repaired, Col. Bowen, Chief Engineer, was permitted to enter the Garbhamudi itself with shoes on. Of course Samprokshane was performed afterwards. That was a special case.

mus File n° 7906-1894 A

12 My attention has also been called to an order of Government in a case in which some European Coffee planters are alleged to have trespassed into the Belur temple To allow everybody to go into the Mowsaleswara temple with shoes on and to perform Samprokshane on each occasion would not proper.

mus File n° 129 of 1893 B

Note—Contn sheet.

GPB—58,000—27-4-09

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Mus File No. 447 of 1909

Serial No.

proper.

13. The Deputy Commissioner's suggestion to provide Japanese shoes with ~~rope~~ soles appears to be good.

14. Submitted to Dewan
4/5/10 Major Secretan
Ambulance
21/3/1910

3/29
21-3-10

15. I am somewhat surprised that a gentleman like the Ch. Justice of Bombay with an acquaintance of Indian ideas & customs should consider a notice of the kind referred to as serving the object of 'humiliation of the European visitor'. As there is regular worship in the temple by a Brahman Pujari, it is out of the question that European visitors or other non-Hindus should be allowed to go inside near the Garbha-Gudi, with or without shoes.

16 I can hardly take the suggestion about grass shoes as seriously meant. I do not know whether the assertion about the Temples of N. India is true

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—55,000—27.4.09

Serial No.

Not. But what is permitted in N. India is not always likely to be ~~tolerated~~ tolerated here. As an instance, I may state that in Viswesvara Shrine in Benares all Hindus of whatever caste may go into the innermost Shrine and directly worship the Linga. But we have only to recollect the opposition raised to H. H. the Sringeri Swami entering the Garbha-gruha of Ranganatha Swami's temple in Srirangapatna a few years ago.

17 The Notice referred to seems to have been issued under proper authority and may remain. Perhaps one better worded & signed by the Dy C^r may be preferable.

18. A reply may be sent to the Residency to this effect.

22/3/10

103
5/5/9
19.3.10

Please draft a reply in above Orders. Rev 2nd Comm^r. Draft in Sept 2 for H. H. Rajpramukh - Thence

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—24.09

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Mms File No. 447 of 1909

Serial No.

Hindus wash our feet before we enter this Temple 26/3/10

20. Put up draft

28/3/10

Draft submd 29.3.10

Draft submitted in the first instance to Secretary

Mr Dewan has said that "We Hindus wash our feet before we enter this Temple". I do not know what the modern state of things is as regards this temple. Whether any person required to wash his feet before entering a Temple

Abdulmajeed
5/4/1910

481

Draft somewhat revised & subd. Dewan through 2nd C

8/4/10

8/4/1910

3/29

I have made some alterations in pencil.

11/4/10

114

Dewan

55/15
13.4.10.

11/4/10

12/4/1910

NOTE—Contn sheet.

GPB—55,000—27-4-09

Aug 447 - 09 (9

Submitted to His Highness.

S.

Draft for approval.

In continuation of my note dated 27th January 1910, I submit for approval the draft of a letter to the Hon'ble the Resident in reply to his D.O. No. C.40 dated 22nd January 1910, on the subject of the prohibition to enter one of the temples at Halebid, complained of by the Hon'ble Sir Basil Scott, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.

ku S Ramaka Rao 15-Ap.10

10

dang 447 - 09

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja

Subject.

Complaint of the Hon'ble Sir Basil Scott, Chief Justice of Bombay, against the prohibition to enter one of the temples at Halebid with shoes on.

DATE 16.4.10.
No 1070.

775

Order.

Approved
~~KRVF~~ -
16/4/10

Note

The D°. letter to the Hon'ble the Resident has been issued from the Dewan's office (Camp Bangalore) on the 17th inst and the entire file with the rough and fair drafts of the D°. letter is resubmitted to the Secretary.

CGF
18 Apl 10.

VII
19/4/10

Query
Should not some
instrs issue to D.C.
Please take Dewan's
orders in person.

19/4/10

19/4/10

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Imp File No. 447 of 1909

17

Serial No.

Submitted to Lt Governor

As proposed by the Secretary it is necessary to issue orders that H.H. the Chief expressly sits and that his powers be removed from the Rules. Legislative

125 Secretary

3362

19/4/10
Submit

I think so. Please draft.

24/4/10

Approved for draft

so recd

54 Draft submd

RB 3/5/10

recommend to Lt Governor. Under the proposed draft of a DO letter. I have sent up draft of an order.

Secretary

8/5/1910

547

PS The Manager suggests that an official note would be advisable, but there are not likely to be such instances in which a DO communication is enough. Apart from this consideration I think what the Law requires is that I should have before the draft to Lt Governor through the Secretary

Secretary

Rc 14 5 10.

Note—Contn sheet

GPB—55,000—27 4 09

5/5/1910

CSB

6/5/10

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue
Secretariat.

1745

File No. 447 of 1909

12

Serial No.	
	Draft D_O. letter appd. Issue after obtaining Dewan's approval - 14/5/10 Hm
14	Submitted to Dewan Ambulance 17/5/10
617 18.5.10.	
	Issue 6.6.1910
4	To The F. A. Resident D_O dy 14 6. 1910. Observes that the prohibition is correct as it is against usage and religious rule to allow any one to enter with boots or shoes on their feet to a temple where regular worship is performed &c.

B

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50 000—13-5-08

13

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit for the information of His Highness the accompanying copy of the Hon'ble Mr. Fraser's Demi-official letter No.C.40 dated 22nd instant regarding the prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid temples without removing their shoes. I am making an inquiry into the matter and will submit a note of the result with draft of the reply that may be sent to Mr. Fraser.

M.V.

F. Macleod R—
27/1/[illegible]

14

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

DATE 28.1.10 841

Copy of the D.O.letter received from the Hon'ble the Resident, regarding the prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid temples without removing their shoes.

551

Order.

~~KRW~~
31/1/10

825
1-2-10

Secy
Hon'ble
1/2/10

Br VII
SB
3/2/10

3/2/10
2/2/10
Agree with the pin
3/2/1910

#627

15

D.O. letter No.C.40, dated Camp Jaubur, 22nd January 1910, from the Hon'ble Mr. S.M. Fraser, to the Dewan.

Last month when the Hon'ble Sir Basil Scott, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court went to visit the large one of the Halibid temples, the Custodian of the temple appears to have shown him a document bearing the signature of the Amildar of Belur dated 1908, stating that visitors are prohibited from entering the Temples without removing their shoes. In consequence Sir Basil Scott left at once and was not able to complete his inspection of the temples.

I shall be interested to learn whether the Amildar's order was issued under authority. If, as is believed, the temples are not now used for worship, I would suggest that the advisability of cancelling the prohibition, if possible, be considered. The Halibid temples are now-a-days visited by many non-Hindu sight-seers, and the Mysore Durbar would, I feel certain, be the last to wish continued, unless absolutely necessary, a restriction which in the opinion of an observer like the Chief Justice of Bombay, seems to serve no object but the "humiliation of the European visitor".

"Copy"

B Rama Aiyangar

Under Secretary on duty
with the Dewan.

(1

D 1450

Secy(Ind)-09-1

Copy of the Hon'ble Mr. Fraser's D.O. Letter No. C.40 dated 22nd Jan'10, on the subject of the prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid Temples without removing their shoes, with compliments, is forwarded to the 2nd Councillor for favour of enquiry and a note of the result with a draft of the reply that may be sent to Mr. Fraser. It is not clear why there should be an order dated 25/1/09. If the Kind Do

Secretary

Secretary

2701
31/1/10

To the D.C. for an early report.

Is there no worship in the temple? What has been the usual practice? Why was an order newly issued in 1908? All records to be sent up.

31/1/10

Secretary

Secretary's note & draft conf

11/2

7627 D 14950

D.O. letter No.C.40, dated Camp Jambur, 22nd January 1910, from the Hon'ble Mr. S.M. Fraser, to the Dewan.

Last month when the Hon'ble Sir Basil Scott, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court went to visit the large one of the Halibid temples, the Custodian of the temple appears to have shown him a document bearing the signature of the Amildar of Belur dated 1908, stating that visitors are prohibited from entering the Temples without removing their shoes. In consequence Sir Basil Scott left at once and was not able to complete his inspection of the temples.

I shall be interested to learn whether the Amildar's order was issued under authority. If, as is believed, the temples are not now used for worship, I would suggest that the advisability of cancelling the prohibition, if possible, be considered. The Halibid temples are now-a-days visited by many non-Hindu sight-seers, and the Mysore Durbar would, I feel certain, be the last to wish continued, unless absolutely necessary, a restriction which in the opinion of an observer like the Chief Justice of Bombay, seems to serve no object but the "humiliation of the European visitor".

"Copy"

Ramaswamy

Under Secretary on duty
with the Dewan.

Muz 1 A] 190

From

To
The Deputy Commr.,
Hassan Dt.

Dated

Despatched 3-2-1910.

Received

General No. 1941

No. Dis 7 4447-09-2

Enclosure No. 1

Has the hona to forward herewith copy of D.O. letter No. C. 40 dated 22nd January 1910, received from the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, on the subject of the prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebid temples without removing their shoes, and to request to be furnished with information on the following points:—

(1) Is there no worship in the temples;

(2) What has been the usual

practice in regard to the use of shoes when entering these temples;

(3) Why was an order newly issued in 1908.

2. The Deputy Commr is requested to submit ~~a~~ a detailed report, together with all the records connected with the case at a very early date.

By Order,

8/ 4/1910

for Secretary.

4/ 4/10.

D. O. No. 715 Hassan 5

9th February 1910.

Enclosures eight

D 1745

My dear Sir, Misc 1407-09-3

I beg to enclose for your ready reference copy of docket no 1941 Mug F. 477-09-2 dated 3rd February 1910 with a copy of its enclosure (D.O. letter no C 40 dated Camp Jambur 22nd January 1910 from the Hon'ble Mr. B. M. Fraser to the Dewan of Mysore) on the subject of prohibition of visitors from entering the Halebede temples without removing their shoes.

2. As Mr. R. H. Campbell Esq. Private Secretary to H. H. The Maharajah addressed a D. O. letter to me asking me to put up Sir Charles Eliot at Hassan on his way from Sravanabelagola to Belur and Halebede; where he wanted to visit the temples, I started for Channarayapatna & met him there on arrival from Mysore by motor car. Being a guest of H. H. The Maharajah, and considering the subject of the Resident's D. O. letter, I thought it advisable to accompany Sir Charles Eliot to all the temples he visited at Sravana-belagola

(6)

-belagola, Belur & Halebede. Everything passed off smoothly, and Sir Charles Eliot expressed himself highly pleased with all he saw and the attentions shown to him. He left Halebede by motor car at 4 p.m. on the 6th instant for Kadur, from where he intended to continue his journey by mail train to Hospet in the Bellary District.

3. I took the opportunity of making enquiries at Halebede privately on the subject of the Resident's D.O. letter after Sir Charles Eliot's departure. I had the statements of the Watchman & Pujari of the Hoysaleshwara temple recorded before me, which are herewith submitted. Presumably this is the temple referred to in the Resident's D.O. letter. I also enclose for your kind perusal an extract from the Visitor's Book maintained at that temple, which are all the remarks made by Sir Basil Scott of Bombay against the date 2-12-1911.

4. I found that there was a board hanging on the door of this temple, on which notice signed by Mr. B. Krishna Amildar of Belur Taluk

in

(7)

in January 1908, was pasted. A copy of Mr B. Krishna Singh's report dated 7th instant as to the authority on which he had that notice put up, and concerning particulars in reply to the three questions put in the above mentioned official docket, is herewith submitted together with the original Kanarese records, referred to in Mr Krishna Singh's report, which started with a petition addressed to the Deputy Commr by the villagers of Halébede and received in the District Office by post on the 29th November 1907, upon which order No 55 dated 2nd December 1907 was addressed to the Sanior Assist Commr Sakleshpur Sub Division, which Officer Mr M. A. Narayanaswamy issued Order No 39, dated 5th December 1907 to the Amildar Belur Taluk, in pursuance of which the Amildar Mr B Krishna Singh had the notice put up.

5. I may here mention that this transpired during my absence on eight months Combined

Combined leave, from which I returned to duty and assumed charge of the District on the 3rd January 1908.

6. As this matter is one of a delicate nature it requires your personal orders as to whether the Revenue notice should be allowed to remain on the door of the temple, or what practice should be followed in the future, I have thought it desirable to address this D.O. letter to you on the subject instead of sending an official reply to the above mentioned docket which I have kept as Confidential. But if you consider that an official report should be made, I will submit the same on receipt back of the enclosures with your instructions to do so.

7. I hear that at some temples in Northern India a supply of Japanese grass-made shoes with jute soles are kept for use by those temples who are unaccustomed to walk without shoes. If the objection is the material of ordinary shoes being perhaps this suggestion will be towards disposal of this delicate matter.

Yours Sincerely
H.W. Wetherell

Res Bt

Draft
15 Apro

Approved pro
17 Apro

Issued from the Dewan's
Office, Camp Mysore -
17 Apro.

Camp
D. O. No. 795 17. April 10

To.

The Hon'ble Mr S. M.
Fraser, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Resident in Mysore.

My dear Sir.

I am in
receipt of your Demi Official
letter of the 22nd January
last, on the subject of
the visit of the Hon'ble
Sir Basil Scott, Chief
Justice of Bombay to the
temples at Halebid.

2 I From enquiries made
I learn that the temple
which the Hon'ble Sir
Basil Scott could not
inspect on account of

the notice prohibiting
visitors from entering it
without removing their shoes,
is one dedicated to Sri
Hoysaleswara. As regular
daily worship is performed
in this temple by a Brahmin
priest, it is against usage
and religious rule to allow
any one to enter the temple
precincts with shoes or boots
on their feet. By a relax
-ation of the strict rule
which does not allow the
entrance of non-Hindus
into Hindu temples, such
visitors are allowed to walk
the outer enclosure to
the carvings, but
one, either a Hindu
-Hindu, may
hold with

shoes on. To apprise of these facts, the notice in question was directed to be put up at the entrance of the temple by proper authority. I beg to assure you that "no humiliation to European visitors" was ever intended and that it was thought more decorous to communicate the information by means of a notice than to allow a servant to announce it orally.

3 The other temple in Halebid is dedicated to Kedareswara. No worship is carried on in it and there is no restriction as to entry in it.

4 In

13.

In the Jain temple or basti in Halebid, worship is performed and the restrictions as to entry with boots on apply to it just as to the Hoysaleswara temple.

Yours sincerely

17.7.1911

The Dewan.

1574

(13 X 5)

File No. 44709

Serial No. 4

G.R.S. 26]

-1/5/16

Diary No. of letter replied to

D. O. No.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, the 190

To

Dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O. letter No. 715 dy 9.2.1910 addressed to the Dewan soliciting orders in the matter of prohibiting visitors from entering the Hoysaleswara temple at Halebid without removing their shoes, I am directed to observe that the prohibition is ~~quite right~~ correct as it is against usage and religious rule to allow any one to enter, with ~~out~~ boots or shoes on, ~~a~~ thereof a temple where regular worship is performed. I am to add that a politely worded notice to this ~~effect~~ effect signed

over.

Date of issue 14th June 1910.

Signed by

SUBJECT.

14
by you maybe put up
in this temple in place
of the notice signed by
the Amildar. Similar
notices should be put up
in other temples also where
regular worship is performed. The enclosures of your
D.O. letter under reply are
returned herewith.

Yours sincerely

and which are frequented visited by tourists,

more
to apprise, sightseers of
~~the rule~~ likely to be ignorant
of local usage, of the
rule.

5/7/1910

5/5/10

14/5/10

List of enclosures,

Copied by CR 7/6/10

Examined by

GPB—10,000—23-5-08